

# Brookwood Middle School

## Opening of School Plan 2021-2022

We are looking forward to this upcoming school year. Our theme at BMS this year is showing our Panther PRIDE through our words and actions. Our core values at BMS are Participation, Responsibility, Integrity, Dedication, and Effort. We are committed to keeping you informed and to working hard to develop relationships with both our students and parents. As we prepare for the upcoming year our core values must be the center of all we do and say. We have worked very hard to prepare for this year to be as normal as possible, while maintaining the safety of our students, employees, and families. We have prepared a plan that will help you better understand what this school year will look like at BMS. As you know, things change from day to day as we try to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Please understand that this is our plan, but things may need to be tweaked from time to time as we receive additional guidance from the Alabama Department of Public Health and the Alabama Department of Education.

**Face Masks:** At this time, TCSS continues to move forward as we did last year, operating under the guidance of any current Alabama COVID-19 public health (mask) order. Right now, there is no mask mandate in our state. However, the Alabama Department of Public Health recommends that everyone in schools – students, faculty, and staff, regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status – wear masks indoors. TCSS is following this same procedure. We do not require, but we strongly recommend, that everyone wear a mask in our schools. Based on the guidance of the most recent ADPH toolkit for schools, if an individual is wearing a mask, the likelihood of isolation or quarantine is minimized. The toolkit provides information on what circumstances will require an individual to quarantine.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

**Buses:** While masks are recommended but not required in our schools, masks are required for anyone riding a school bus. This is based on federal requirements, included in the ADPH toolkit for schools.

**Morning Drop Off:** Bus drop off will begin at 7:25 each day. Buses will unload allowing for social distancing along the sidewalk bus area. Car rider drop off will begin at 7:30 each morning. All doors will be positioned open until the start of school, to prevent student to student contact. Students not eating breakfast will go straight to their assigned classroom upon arriving. Students eating breakfast will eat in the lunchroom, follow social distancing guidelines, and then report to their assigned classroom.

**Afternoon Dismissal:** Buses start dismissing at 3:15 p.m. Bus riders will be dismissed by Grade level to lessen the number of students loading at one time. Car riders will dismiss as soon as the bus riders have been dismissed. Parents/guardians MUST have a sign with the child's last name, first name, and grade level clearly and boldly marked visible in the front passenger window of the vehicle. Student names will be radioed to the building and students will be dismissed as their rides arrive.

## **INSTRUCTION**

**Classrooms:** In addition to our regular cleaning schedule, each classroom will receive cleaning supplies and teachers are encouraged to clean and use hand sanitizer and soap throughout the day. At the end of each day, classrooms will be sanitized with a special misting machine. While in classrooms, students will be spread out as much as feasibly possible. Students will not be allowed to share school supplies. Please make sure your child's name is on all supplies.

**PE:** Students will participate in PE each day. Classes are arranged so that social distancing can be accommodated. PE classes will be outside as much as possible. The gym and PE equipment will be sanitized with the misting machine between each rotation. Students will have their own piece of equipment when possible. Students will not be dressing out for PE, but need to wear appropriate clothing and shoes to participate in PE daily.

**Elective Classes:** Students will participate in elective classes. Elective teachers will sanitize each period during the transition time between classes.

**Water:** Students are encouraged to bring a bottle of water each day. Please put your child's name on the water bottle. Water fountains have been converted to water fill stations in the school.

**Lockers:** Students will be assigned lockers based on their grade level. Students will NOT be able to go to their lockers during transition times. They will be allowed to go to their locker by their assigned pod classroom teacher rotation.

**Restrooms:** In addition to regular cleaning, restrooms will be sanitized using the misting machines throughout the day. Students will NOT be allowed in the restrooms during transition. Students will be allowed to go to the restroom during class time on an as needed basis.

**Lunchroom:** Students who are purchasing lunch will go through the serving line. Students will not use the keypad this year for their lunch numbers. Parents need to add funds to student lunch accounts using MySchoolBucks.com for extras. Lunchroom tables will be cleaned and sanitized between each class. At this time guests will not be allowed to eat lunch with students. We are asking parents to be sure to send all lunch items to school with students. We are not allowed to have students bring a lunch in a restaurant container.

**Visitors/Volunteers:** Visitors and volunteers are allowed at a limited capacity. We hope to be able to open our doors to all our wonderful parents/visitors as soon as it is safe for our students and employees. Since we are limiting access for visitors at this time we are asking parents/guardians to make sure students have all school supplies, shoes for PE, lunch, and homework when they arrive at school. Students will not be allowed to call home for these items unless it is for an emergency situation.

**Check-Outs:** If a student needs to check out, the parent/guardian must come to the front door and ring the bell for assistance. A staff member will verify through identification and PowerSchool that the person is allowed to check the student out. Visitors will be buzzed into the main office for check-outs.

**Excuses for Absences:** Students who are ill should not attend school. As possible, parents/guardians should e-mail or fax excuses. Please email Mrs. Townsend at batownsend@tcss.net or fax number is 205-247-4163.

**Nurse:** In the event that a student runs fever or exhibits other signs of illness while at school, the student will be isolated in a quarantine room close to the nurse's office until parents/guardians are notified. If you are called to pick up your child due to illness, the student must be picked up within an hour of notification. Sick students should not be left at school for an extended period of time.

**Medication Drop Off:** The school nurse will make appointments for parents to be able to drop off medicine.

**First Day of School:** Parents will NOT be allowed to walk students to class or enter the school building the first day of school. We will have teachers and staff members in the hallway to assist your child with locating their correct classroom. Students will go to their homeroom at the start of the school day for the first week of school. The homerooms are assigned alphabetically by last-name. Listings of the student names with Homeroom assignments are posted throughout the school.

**Cell Phones:** Students may be allowed to utilize their cell phones during class times as specified by their teacher for instructional purposes. However, students may not have cell phones out during transition times, in the lunchroom before school or at lunch, or for non-instructional purposes.

**Computers/Device:** Students will be assigned a device to use at school for completion of class assignments. The assignments will be posted using a system called Schoology.

**Athletes:** At the end of the school day, in-season athletes who are participating in practice or an event will remain in their classroom until all students have been dismissed from school. Students will report to the assigned practice area once dismissed.